

Amendments to the Specification

Please replace paragraph [0001] with the following amended paragraph:

[0001] The invention relates to a lightweight valve, in particular for internal combustion engines, in particular for internal combustion engines, comprising a valve stem, a hollow valve cone and a valve disk closing the valve cone, the valve stem being provided with a hollow space at its end facing the valve disk ~~according to the preamble of claim 1~~, and to a method for manufacturing the lightweight valve, ~~according to claim 17~~.

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0002]:

BACKGROUND

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0004]:

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following amended paragraph:

[0005] ~~To achieve the object, a~~ A lightweight valve according to the present invention ~~with the features of claim 1 is proposed. This is characterized by~~ has at least one force transmission element which is provided on the valve disk and extends through the hollow valve cone into the stem hollow space. Owing to the force transmission element which is formed or designed on or fastened to the valve disk, optimum introduction of the gas forces acting on the valve disk during operation of the lightweight valve into the valve stem can be ensured without inadmissibly great deformations of the valve disk and of the valve cone arising in this connection. Owing to the design according to the invention of the lightweight valve, it can be ensured that the valve cone is virtually force-free during operation of the lightweight valve, that is that only very small forces, if any, are introduced into the valve cone via the valve disk. The valve cone can therefore be designed with very thin walls, which is advantageous in manufacture of the same and moreover contributes to reducing the weight of the lightweight valve.

Please delete paragraph [0009].

Please replace paragraph [0010] with the following amended paragraph:

[0010] ~~The subject matter of the invention also concerns a method with the features of claim 17 for manufacturing a lightweight valve.~~ The method according the present invention proposes that a first one-piece component forming the valve disk and the force transmission element is produced by primary forming and/or forming in a first step. A second one-piece component forming the valve stem and the valve cone is produced in a second step. According to a first variant embodiment, the valve cone is produced on the valve stem by flaring, that is by expanding the hollow stem end. According to a second variant embodiment, the valve cone and the valve stem are separate components which are interconnected to form the second component by material, non-positive and/or positive connection. Finally, in a third step, the first and second components are joined together by introducing the force transmission element into the valve stem and subsequently firmly interconnected by means of material, non-positive and/or positive connection.

Please delete paragraph [0012].

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0013]:

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Please add the following new heading before paragraph [0015]:

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Please amend the heading on top of page 11 with the following amended heading:

~~Patent claims~~ WHAT IS CLAIMED IS: